



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/739,708	12/20/2000	Paul M. Bernnan	91436-312	3270

33000 7590 01/14/2003

DOCKET CLERK
P.O. DRAWER 800889
DALLAS, TX 75380

EXAMINER

KNOWLIN, THJUAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2642

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

FN

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/739,708

Applicant(s)

BERNNAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thjuan P Knowlin

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Han et al (US 5,818,903).
3. In regards to claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 22, 23, 27, 30, and 31, Han discloses a method and computer readable medium for handling an unsuccessful synchronous call attempt from a calling party to a called party (col. 1-2 lines 47-39), said method comprising: monitoring a synchronous call attempt from said calling party to said called party; determining at least one communication address related to said called party; dropping said synchronous call attempt to said called party; receiving a message composed by the calling party (col. 2 lines 3-14 and col. 7 lines 15-30); and sending said message to said determined communication address (col. 7 lines 6-15, col. 8 lines 24-37, col. 8 lines 55-57, and col. 9 lines 18-32).
4. In regards to claims 2, 3, 17, and 18, Han discloses the method and computer readable medium, further comprising determining that said synchronous call attempt to said called party is unsuccessful (col. 3 lines 30-36, col. 7 lines 6-15 and col. 9 lines 18-25).

5. In regards to claims 4, 19, and 28, Han discloses the method and computer readable medium, wherein said indication comprises said calling party pressing a predetermined key or keys on a communication device (col. 6 lines 4-13).
6. In regards to claims 5, 20, and 29, Han discloses the method and computer readable medium, wherein said indication comprises said calling party using a vocal command (col. 5 lines 3-23).
7. In regards to claims 8 and 21, Han discloses the method and computer readable medium, wherein said at least one communication address comprises at least one of a telephone number, pager number, e-mail address, voice messaging address, mobile phone number, and Internet instant messaging address (col. 6 lines 28-44).
8. In regards to claims 13, 14, 15, 24, 25, and 26, Han discloses the method and computer readable medium, wherein said receiving a message composed by a calling party (col. 2 lines 3-14 and col. 7 lines 15-30) comprises: where said at least one communication address related to the called party comprises a plurality of communication addresses, presenting said calling party with a list of messaging options based on said plurality of communication addresses; allowing the calling party to select a messaging option for use; and commencing a message compose session related to said selected messaging option and pre-filling a communication address for said message with a communication address related to said messaging option (col. 7 lines 15-30 and col. 9 lines 26-40).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed October 29, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant states that Han does not teach nor disclose, "receiving a message composed by the calling party." Examiner respectfully disagrees with this argument. Han does teach and disclose, receiving a message composed by the calling party (col. 2 lines 3-14 and col. 7 lines 15-30).

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
11. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.
12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P Knowlin whose telephone number is (703) 308-1727. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30pm.
13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (703)305-4731. The fax phone numbers

Application/Control Number: 09/739,708

Page 5

Art Unit: 2642

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

14. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Thjuan P. Knowlin
January 7, 2003

Harry S. Hong

HARRY S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER